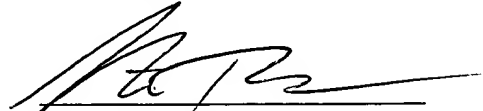


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
DIV. OF APPLN NO. 09/251,402

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 2, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claim:

11. (Amended) A magnetic latching apparatus for use in a hard disk drive as claimed in claim [3, 5 or 8] 5, wherein the core to which the permanent magnet is connected is provided with a hinge assembly at an end thereof so as to ensure a connection of the core to the permanent magnet.